

synonyms of it. It is remarked, that there are "no intermediate states between it and *G. Robertianum*, β . *maritimum* (Bab.), although the two are found constantly growing intermixed. Few plants, in fact, are either more constant in their differences, or more easily discriminated." "In higher, shady spots, *G. Robertianum* β . retains all its hairiness; *G. purpureum* (Vill.) growing by its side becomes, on the contrary, smoother."

We have only to add a strong recommendation of this book to the notice of botanists.

The Grasses of Great Britain. Illustrated by J. E. SOWERBY; described by C. JOHNSON. Parts 1 and 2. 8vo, London, 1857.

It is probable that this series of plates of Grasses will fulfil the object intended, namely, to supply to those who are interested in them, as agriculturists rather than botanists, the means of ascertaining the names of Grasses, and also to give an account of their value to the farmer. No pretension seems to be made to advance science by this publication, and neither the plates nor the letter-press are of much use to the botanist. We cannot avoid thinking that it was quite possible to have rendered the plates of scientific value, without detracting from their practical utility. Dissected flowers are figured, but they are not so executed as to give confidence in their scientific accuracy, and it is very doubtful if they will be of any value to the unscientific reader.

The Insect Hunters; or, Entomology in Verse. 12mo, 1857, London.

It is not often that we have to notice a scientific work written in verse,—indeed we believe that none such has ever been mentioned in this Journal. That now before us is a very clever poem, intended to present to young entomologists a concise statement of the classification of Insects. The metre is similar to that of Longfellow's well-known 'Hiawatha,' and it is wonderful to remark how well the troublesome details of science are expressed in it. A rather careful examination has convinced us that the characters of the orders and tribes of Insects are very accurately given by the author. May his hope that it will tend to popularize this interesting science, be fully realized! How far the uninitiated will appreciate it, is hard to say; but certainly those who have attained to some knowledge of entomology will read it with pleasure and profit. Although no author's name appears in the book, it may apparently be fairly referred to the pen of the well-known Edw. Newman, who has done so much for scientific entomology, and been the chief cause of the present popularity of the study of Ferns.